(b) The cost of production depends on several factors including degree of mechanisation. However, generally speaking, the cost of production should come down with higher capacity utilisation.

(c) Does not arise.

**Withdrawal of cash prize to loaders of Bhutan Barace Colliery**

4265. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government are aware that Cash prize given to the loaders of Bhulan Barace Colliery, Area XI, BCCL for better performance during 1993 have been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the details giving the names of the workers and the amount involved and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the deduction of the prize amount later from the salary of the workers has created great demoralisation amongst the workers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken on that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJ1T KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) 268 workers of Barace Colliery, BCCL were given an incentive payment of Rs. 16,818 for production. Subsequently, it was discovered the colliery had not given the desired production level and therefore the payment made by mistake was recovered.

**Persons employed in coal mines**

4266. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 678 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th February, 1994 and state:

(a) what is the number of persons employed in coal mines, State-wise as on 31st March, 1994; and

(b) what is the quantum of coal taken out from these mines during the period 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) :(a):

| Name of State | No. of persons employed |
|---|---|
| Bihar | 2,58,729 |
| West Bengal | 1,71,784 |
| Maharashtra | 47,791 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 1,43,061 |
| Orissa | 22,073 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 7,421 |
| Assam | 5,097 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1,15,035 |

(b) 241.3 Million Tonnes.

**1993-94 के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० को घाटा हुआ**

**4267. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1993–94 के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० को कितना लाभ अथवा हानि हुई है;

(ख) क्या कोल इंडिया लि० ने आधुनिकीकरण और तकनीकी क्षेत्रों में विदेशों से कोई सहायता ली है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

**कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) :** (क) कोल इंडिया लि० के वर्ष 1993-94 के लाभ/हानि के अंतिम आंकड़ों को अंतिम रूप दिए जाने लेखा परीक्षा किए जाने के बाद उपलब्ध होंगे ।

(ख) और (ग) ऐसे क्षेत्रों में जिनमें विदेशी सहयोग लिया जा रहा है, उनमें भूमिगत एवं ओपनकास्ट दोनों क्षेत्रों में नई तकनीकी की शुरूआत किया जाना । उपकरणों के आयात के लिए निधि और निवेश की अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए वित्तीय सहायता शामिल है । ऐसे क्षेत्र जिनमे विशेषज्ञता आवश्यक है, उनमें कठिन भू-खनन परिस्थितियों से निपटारा, उत्पादकता में सुधार करना, सुधरी प्रौद्योगिकी तथा अत्याधुनिक उपकरणों के कार्यचालन में प्रशिक्षण दिया जाना शामिल है । मुख्य देश जिससे विदेशी सहायता मांगी गई है वे निम्न है:—विश्व बैंक के अलावा, यू० के०, फ्रांस, जर्मनी, भूतपूर्व सोवियत संघ, कनाडा, आस्ट्रेलिया और चीन है ।

**Denationalisation of coal sector**

4268. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 68 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th February, 1994 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to denationalise the coal sector in-the near future; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Coal Mines were nationalised so as to provide adequate investments for coordinated and scientific development and utilisation of coal resources. In view of the quantum jump in coal requirements mainly from the power sector and need for larger investments, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act was amended to allow private sector to undertake captive coal mining for generation of power, washing of coal and such other end uses as may be notified by the Central Government. However, Government does not see any need to privatise existing public sector coal companies.

**Outstanding dues of Coal India Limited from SERs and other coal consumers**

4269. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Electricity Boards and other large coal consumers owe Coal India Limited over Rupees 3,000 crores; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to ensure the payment of the money owed to Coal India Limited and alleviate its financial burden ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) It is true that Power Utilities and other consumers owe about Rs. 3,907 crores (provisional) to Coal India Limited (CIL) as on 31-3-1994 for supply of coal. The total outstanding dues of CIL from Power Utilities alone added upto Rs. 3,127.44 crores (provisional) as on 31-3-1994.

(b) Following steps are being taken to recover the outstanding dues:

(i) All power units commissioned after 1-4-1989 were being supplied coal only against advance payments or against revolving Letter of Credit.

(ii) Government of India have adjusted in four equal annual instalments all undisputed coal sales outstanding as on 31-5-1990 against the Central Assistance to State Plans payable to the State Governments whose State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities had defaulted.

(iii) In view of the mounting arrears of coal sale dues, Ministry of Coal advised CIL to start supplying coal to the Power Utilities only against advance payments. This scheme which is better known as 'Cash and Carry Scheme' was introduced with effect from 1-10-1991.

(iv) State Governments have been requested to pursuade/enable their State Electricity Boards to clear the outstanding dues at the earliest.

(v) Joint Secretary, incharge of distribution of coal in the Ministry of Coal visited many state Governments and held discussions with the Power Secretaries and Chairman Electricity Boards for resolving the matter regarding clearance of outstanding dues.

**कोल इंडिया लि० में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कर्मचारी**

4270. श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोल इंडिया लि० में कार्यरत अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कर्मचारियों की श्रेणीवार संख्या कितनी-कितनी है;

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कोलम्बो योजना के अधीन कोल इंडिया लि० द्वारा कोयला खानकार कितने खनन अभियंताओं को विदेश भेजा गया ;

(ग) उनमें से अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कितने अभियंता हैं; और

(घ) कोलम्बो योजना के लिए उम्मीदवारों के चयन हेतु मानदंड क्या हैं ?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) : (क) :

| वर्ग | अनुसूचित जातिके कर्मचारियों की संख्या | अनुसूचित जनजाति के कर्मचारियों की संख्या |
|---|---|---|
| ए . . | 725 | 236 |
| बी . . | 1452 | 1014 |